

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8279

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS ROME 18149

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: LA MALFA PROPOSES GREATER PARTICIPATION BY COMMUNISTS
IN GOVERNMENT

REF.: ROME 18038

1. IN SEPARATE INTERVIEWS PUBLISHED IN /LA REPUBBLICA/ AND /CORRIERE DELLA SERA/ ON NOVEMBER 6, REPUBLICAN PARTY PRESIDENT LA MALFA DECLARED THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR "A GREATER PARTICIPATION BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY OR, IN ANY CASE, A STRONGER INCORPORATION IN THE MAJORITY." ASKED IF HE WAS IN EFFECT CALLING FOR AN EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE COMMUNISTS, LA MALFA REPLIED, "THIS IS AN ARRANGEMENT THAT COULD BE TRIED NOW; THE POLITICAL CONDITIONS FOR IT EXIST. IN FACT, IT IS ADVISABLE TO PROCEED BY INTERMEDIATE STEPS. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO BRING TO AN END THE PRESENT SINGLE PARTY GOVERNMENT." IN LA MALFA'S VIEW, THE PRESENT POLITICAL

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SITUATION IS CHARACTERIZED BY TWO CONTROLLING FACTORS: THE "PARALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT" AND BERLINGUER'S SPEECH AT THE 60TH PARTY CONGRESS WHICH MARKED "A VERY DEFINITE POLITICAL SHIFT." THESE TWO CONSIDERATIONS IN CONJUNCTION SHOULD IN LA MALFA'S VIEW, OPEN THE WAY FOR A GREATER COMMUNIST ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT, A GOVERNMENT THAT WOULD THEN BE CAPABLE OF DEALING EFFECTIVELY WITH ITALY'S PROBLEMS.

2. ANDREOTTI'S OFFICE HAS REJECTED BOTH LA MALGA'S PROPOSAL FOR
RESTRUCTURING THE GOVERNMENT AND HIS ASSERTION OF ITS FAILURES.
ACCORDING TO /IL MESSAGGERO/, ANDREOTTI BELIEVES THAT THE
POLITICAL CONDITIONS WHICH LED TO THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT CONTINUE
TO EXIST AND THAT THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE IN SIGHT TO THE PRESENT
SINGLE-PARTY ARRANGEMENT.

3. ALTHOUGH NEITHER THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC NOR COMMUNIST
PARTIES HAVE SO FAR OFFICIALLY COMMENTED ON THE INTERVIEWS,
THE OTHER PARTIES HAVE SO FAR OFFICIALLY COMMENTED ON THE INTER-
VIEWS, THE OTHER PARTIES HAVE BEEN QUICK TO WEIGH IN.

SOCIALIST PARTY SECRETARY CRAXI REPEATED HIS PARTY'S STANDARD
POSITION: EITHER A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY, WHICH
WBLDD INCLUDE THE COMMUNISTS AND THE OTHER ABSTAINING PARTIES,
OR THE STATUS QUO; UNDER NO CINRCIMSTANCES WOULD THE SOCIALIST
PARTY SUPPORT A CENTER-LEFT GOVERNMENT OR A COALITION OF THE
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS. SPEAKING FOR THE SOCIAL
DEMOCRATS, VICE SECRETARY LONGO GAVE LA MALFA'S PROPOSAL VAGUE
SUPPORT. A GRADUAL BROEENING OF THE GOVERNMENT WOULD, IN
LONGO'S VIEW, HELP CLARIFY THE POLITICAL SITUATION AND AT THE SAME
TIME ENCOURAGE FURTHER CHANGE IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY. LIBERAL
LEADER ZANONE WARNED THAT IF THE COMMUNISTS PARTICIPATED IN
GOVERNMENT IN ANY WAY HIS PARTY WOULD GO INTO OPPOSITION.
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER DELFINO SAID THAT LA MALFA'S
PROPOSAL SHOULD SIMPLY BE SEEN IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPUBLICAN
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LEADER'S CAMPAIGN TO BECOME PRESIDENT OF ITALY.HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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